

clarke university COURIER

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Dubuque, Iowa

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'Note' worthy



CU musicians Luke Flynn and Brian Eiffes were the only two undergrads in the nation invited to a composing convention in South Carolina.

photo molli finn

molli finn
staff writer

For Clarke students Luke Flynn and Brian Eiffes making music is just another

part of daily life. They have both been composing music since their early teens, and have come to Clarke as music majors hoping to take their passions one step further. On Thursday, November 11, they both got that opportunity in Columbia, S.C., at the Society of Composers, Inc., National Conference where they were the only two undergraduate students in the country to have their pieces selected for performance.

"The Society of National Composers Inc. National conference is a professional composition conference," said music department chair Amy Dunker. "People who select compositions for this conference are competing against people who are professional composers and people with Ph.D's."

Of the nearly 400 compositions submitted, only 21 percent were selected for performance at the conference. The music selected was entirely made up of music by graduate students, doctoral students, teachers, and professional composers, with the exception of the compositions by Flynn and Eiffes.

Flynn and Eiffes submitted their pieces in early spring. They both mailed in a copy of the musical score as well as a recording of their piece. They received word that their pieces had been selected via email in June.

"This was something I had never done before," said Eiffes, a junior music education and composition major. "To have a committee going through hundreds of pieces and say 'this one we want to hear,' that's really cool."

Eiffes' piece, a duet for cello and piano, is entitled "Final Farewell." He wrote it after having a recurring dream of his grandmother dying. "I started writing it for a brass quintet, but decided that really wasn't ap-

See "Music" Pg. 3

Catalyst wins 10 national awards

The 2010 Clarke Catalyst has won ten awards from the Columbia University Scholastic Press Association in a national competition among colleges, universities and community colleges in the United States.

This year there were 9,460 Gold Circle Award entries from colleges, universities and secondary schools throughout the United States.

Senior communication major Molly McCormick won Third Place in the Fiction: Humor category for her story, "A Field Guide to Clarke Students."

For her illustrations to accompany the "Field Guide" story senior art major Beatrice Schares won First and Third Place. Schares also won Third Place for her portfolio of illustrations for the story.

Senior art major Lindsey Wilson won first place for single page design. And Wilson and senior communication major Erin Cowan won second place for page design.

Cowan also won Third Place for a photo of a little girl for a story on the Dubuque Multicultural Center as well as Third Place for her portfolio of page designs for the Catalyst. In addition, she won second place for spread design.

Junior art major Evan Sickfort won third place for an illustration for a story on Clarke student bloopers.

campus life



Abdul Sinno has seen success with his latest book.

arts etc.



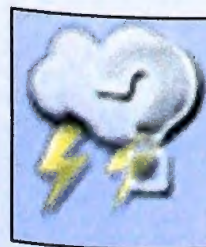
'Eurydice' opens tonight at 7 p.m.

sports



Clarke women's volleyball ends setting numerous new bars for 2011.

weather



Partly cloudy. High 40. Low 27.

'Tanners' hit with new tax

molly mccormick
staff writer

Everyone loves to feel the warmth of the sunlight on their skin, especially during the winter. For many students there is nothing more relaxing during the winter, than to go tanning. It warms your whole body, allows you to relax, and then there is the main purpose—you walk away with an amazing tan. But despite how relaxing it might be and that beautiful summer glow it gives you, tanning is very harsh on your skin, and now it may even be hard on your wallet.

A new tanning tax went into effect this summer in hopes of reducing the number of people who use indoor tanning beds. This 10 percent tax helped fund a \$940 billion health care bill. With winter coming, we will see how much people are willing to pay

to keep up with their summer look.

"I did have a few customers react harshly to the increase of the tan tax," said Sam. "It is hard to explain to them that it is government issued and they now have to pay 17 percent sales tax on tanning services. One customer commented to me that raising the tax on tanning was like when they raised the taxes on cigarettes. The government is making you pay more for something that is threatening your health."

"I haven't really noticed the tanning tax," Berendes added, "I purchased all my tanning minutes before the tax so I really haven't had to pay much in addition."



bing.com

But then there are other risks involved in tanning. The sun's rays contain two types of ultraviolet radiation that affects your skin, UVA and UVB. UVA penetrates deeper into the skin, causing long-term damage.

See "Tanning" Pg. 3

November 18, 2010

Beating the Odds: Lifelong Bears fan sees first game

brenden west
editor

There's a picture in my parents' living room. It was taken just weeks after I was born. In it, I've donned navy blue and orange infant apparel, matching my dad — Bradley West — who's cradling me in his forearm. This is photo evidence of my fanhood, and I'm barely out of the womb.

From day one I've been a Chicago Bears fan. Yet it wasn't until this past Sunday, four days before my 22nd birthday, that I was able to watch a game at Soldier Field with my very own eyes. What is likely to be Brett Favre's last game in Chicago was my first, and the moment is forever etched in my brain as a lifelong dream finally fulfilled.

My friends always ask, "How is it that a kid from the Chicago suburbs with your devotion hasn't yet been to a game?"

There are a few reasons for this: Poor timing, a busy schedule and lack of commitment are all factors. But the obvious contributing factor is my lack of fiscal resources. In other words, I'm always broke, and the price of tickets — well, let's just say I would've had a very interesting evening downtown.

To put into perspective how much I paid for seats in the nosebleed section: each Jay Cutler passing attempt cost me \$7. He threw the ball 35 times. I could have bought over



90 gallons of gas, enough to top off my car eight times. If I had saved my money, I could have bought a round trip flight to Orlando and spent the day at Disney World.

But something about that photo with my dad — the meaning behind being a Bears fan by birthright

— there was no way I could ignore the call to support my team.

With the help of my parents, I was able to purchase my ticket. I would be going with three of my closest friends (last year's Courier editor Ben Jacobson would also be attending his first game with me). On Sunday, I was able to tailgate, and even worked up the gumption to paint my face.

When I first stepped into majestic Soldier Field, and I first beheld the ground my Midway Monsters walked, tears filled my eyes. The aura of being around thousands of people like me, united in one cause — for the Chicago Bears — was spellbinding and magical.

My team rewarded me. The Bears beat the Vikings, Sunday, 27-13. I yelled, laughed, hugged, and high-fived for nearly four hours straight. I left the game with a blistering

headache and the voice of an old man. I left with empty pockets. I left with a smile on my face.

Caffeine/alcohol combo under scrutiny

catherine savitch
staff writer



The mixing of alcohol and caffeine has recently stirred up some controversy. The well-known energy drink/alcoholic beverages sold for under \$3 are getting some college students sick and many people worried.

One of these popular brands — Four Loko — has 12 percent alcohol content and as much caffeine as a tall Starbucks brewed coffee according to the Four Loko website. This website requires you to enter your birthday and verify your year of birth to even enter the site. Like any other alcoholic beverage, Four Loko may only be purchased if you are 21.

The drinks come in eight flavors: Orange, Fruit Punch, Lemonade, Cranberry Lemonade, Uva (grape), Watermelon, Blue

Raspberry and Lemon Lime. According to a recent article in the New York Times, incidents involving these beverages at Ramapo College in New Jersey and Central Washington University in Ellensburg, Wash., caused an uproar. Students who spent a night drinking them ended up in the emergency room with high levels of alcohol poisoning.

An article on cbsnews.com says some people say they get a "paradoxical alert-but-relaxed feeling" as an effect of the beverage.

Dr. Michael Reihart, an emergency room doctor at Lancaster General Hospital in Lancaster, Penn., said in the New York Times, "It's a recipe for disaster because your body's natural defense is to get sleepy and not

want to drink, but in this case you're tricking the body with the caffeine."

Alyssa Gantzert, senior psychology major at Clarke, agrees. "Personally, I do not think it is wise to mix alcohol with energy drinks so I can see why the FDA is looking into it," said Gantzert. "However, there should also be the responsibility of the drinker."

Phusion Projects, LLC, a Chicago-based company, makes Four Loko.

On the Phusion Projects website it says, "The U.S. Food and Drug Administration is examining the safety of combining caffeine and alcohol and, as part of this investigation, is looking into about 40 different caffeinated alcoholic products, including our products. We've complied with the agency's request and have submitted a GRAS study showing that combining caffeine and alcohol is safe — a practice that is by no means new or novel."

"The main problem in banning such drinks is that it wouldn't eliminate the problem," said Peter Bayliss, junior business administration major at Clarke. "Individuals would get round the ban and be able

create a similar type of drink to Four Loko by mixing highly caffeinated drinks such as Monster and Red Bull with alcohol such as Vodka and Schnapps."

Washington, Michigan, Utah and Oklahoma have already banned Four Lokos. The New

York Times says there's a high likelihood that the FDA will ask the Phusion Project company to make changes to its beverage or stop selling it.

Clarke university COURIER

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clarke courier

CAMPUS LIFE

November 18, 2010

Music continued from page 1

Tanning continued from page 1

appropriate for that piece," said Eiffes. At the conference, "Final Farewell," was performed by Clarke students Laura Priest and Kim Lyon.

Flynn's piece is a short, happy piece for brass quintet called "Dance in the Summer Field" and was inspired by a field near Flynn's childhood home where he used to play. It was performed by Clarke's Brass Quintet. "A lot of people don't get this opportunity," said Flynn, a sophomore music composition major. "If the title or idea is intimidating to them, people don't take the initiative to try. The entire purpose of college is to try these things."

Both Flynn and Eiffes departed for the University of South Carolina in Columbia on Tuesday, Nov. 9, along with music faculty members Amy Dunker and Zane Merritt, who also had pieces chosen and several other Clarke students who performed their pieces.

Dunker, who has had her own compositions performed at the conference many times, is proud of her students. "I have never seen undergrads at the national conference before," she said. "They have been chosen for the regional conference before, but not the national." She credits Flynn and Eiffes' musical abilities, as well as the quality of the composition program at Clarke. "It is probably one of the strongest departments in the region, especially at the undergraduate level."

The conference began Thursday, Nov. 11, and ran through Sunday, Nov. 14. Dunker, Flynn, and Eiffes had their pieces performed at the first concert Thursday morning, and Merritt's was performed during the mid-day concert on Sunday afternoon. "It was an awesome experience," said Flynn.

"We met a lot of really great people and really talented musicians," said Eiffes.

trates the deeper layers of your skin, the epidermis, and triggers cells called melanocytes to produce melanin, which is the brown pigment that causes tanning to occur. The other ultraviolet radiation is UVB; this radiation burns the top layers of your skin, causing sunburn.

"I tan occasionally because I feel more confident when I have more color," said Abby Fromm, senior, nursing major. "It is relaxing and makes me feel better about myself; even though I know it's bad for my skin."

Tanning beds use UVA radiation, and the concentration of UVA is greater in tanning beds than from natural sunlight. Some tanning beds do have some UVB rays as well, but regardless, the exposure from tanning beds is more intense than that from the natural sun. As a result, you absorb far more rays, which put you at greater risk of skin cancer and ages your skin faster.

"I love tanning," said Courtney Berendes, senior, education major. "I hate looking pasty in the winter, so I go tanning to relax and avoid looking so pale."

Sam Dugan, sophomore English major, works at Tan World. "The reason I go tanning is because it honestly makes me feel better; I feel more confident about myself when I am tan."

What Dugan enjoys most about working at Tan World is the atmosphere. They are at their busiest during the winter months, and it allows her to get to know her customers more on a personal level.

"As a frequent tanner and an employee at a tan-

ning salon, I am aware how bad tanning is for your skin, but you also have to weigh in the positives as well," she said. "Many dermatologists do suggest tanning for patients with severe acne or scarring because tanning will help fade the scars and dry out the acne. Also, tanning gives you the Vitamin D that you get from the sun, which is why we are so busy in the winter months because people want the sunlight in their lives."

There are many safe alternatives to indoor tanning. Sunless tanners (self-tanners) can be purchased at any convenience store and they are even being incorporated into our everyday lotions, giving us a gradual tan over time. If you're looking for a professional longer-lasting tan, you can still go to a tanning salon and get a spray-on tan. Spray-on tans normally last a couple of weeks and can look very natural, without that dreaded orange look that they are sometimes known for.

So, with the winter season coming up, do your skin a favor and stay away from tanning beds. It greatly reduces your risk of skin cancer and keeps you looking younger longer. There are many alternatives out there that can give you a safe way to keep that summer glow all year long. So do your skin a favor and save some money: Stay away from the tanning beds this winter.

"When I think of how tanning is bad for you, I try to outweigh the negatives with the positives," said Dugan.

Comm. prof's book finds success

Samm mammoser
staff writer

As a young child in Lebanon, Clarke communication professor Abdul Sinno received a star for being able to spell the word, "Mississippi." M-I-S-S-I-S-S-I-P-P-I. The word has stuck with Sinno ever since, which lead to his current obsession with the great river. Sinno recently published his second book of photography of the Mississippi River.

Sinno left Lebanon 24 years ago and has been teaching communication at Clarke for 22 years. He has always had a fascination with photography which became more serious when photography turned digital. Now he and his son Rafic teach digital photography at Clarke.

For his current book Sinno worked with his sons Rafic and Omar photographing the river from its start in Lake Itasca, Minn., to its endpoint near the Gulf of Mexico. The work for this book has been done over the past eight years, requiring many road trips up and down the river to find the perfect picture.

"There is a small window of time to find the right picture," said Sinno. "You have to take the picture at exactly the right moment to get the sun in the correct location with all the pretty colors. It's a skill we have acquired over time."

The book is one to keep on your coffee table to look at all the beautiful pictures of the Midwest. Some pages have written text, Sinno's response to the photograph on the page. For example, one of the photos is of Hannibal, Mo., the home town of Mark Twain, and Sinno has a dialogue with Twain on the page. Some of the photographs and texts are used at yoga studios where participants will stare at photos and read aloud Sinno's

words while doing their yoga exercises.

Sinno's first book about the Mississippi is out of print and now the second book is also close to being out of print.

"The book sold out in about an hour," said Sinno. "We are in talks with the Telegraph Herald, the publisher, to print more books. There was a fantastic turnout at the Davenport Border's for the signing too." Sinno will have another signing at Border's after Thanksgiving in Dubuque.

His understanding of the composition of pictures helps Sinno amaze his fans with his photographs. The pictures are not edited after being taken, and are just put into the book in order from north to south on the river. Sinno's dedication to the

project also adds a special effect to his book. One time in La Crosse, Wisconsin, Sinno showed this dedication.

"We needed to take a picture but we needed to find the perfect time," said Sinno. "It was 16 below and extremely windy at about 2 a.m. and we found the perfect picture. I did not have my gloves and Rafic blocked the wind for me so we could get the perfect shot. The picture turned out fantastic."

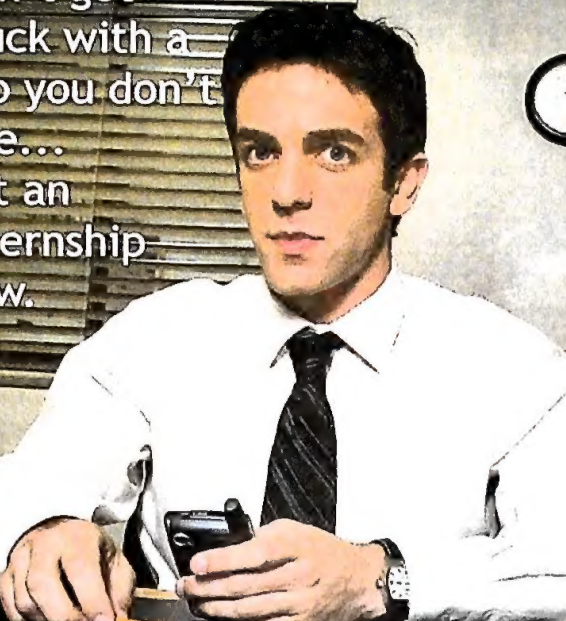
If you're looking to see the pictures, you can go to any of



Communication department chair Abdul Sinno has had recent success with his new book "The Mississippi: Border to Border."

Sinno's web sites: Drsinnoblogspot.com, mysinnophoto.com, or sinnocom.com to see the photos. At sinnocom.com you can use the photos to create your own calendar.

Don't get stuck with a job you don't like... get an internship now.

A man with dark hair, wearing a white dress shirt and a dark striped tie, sits at a dark desk. He has a weary expression, looking directly at the camera. His hands are on a black mobile phone. A yellow pencil lies on the desk in front of him. In the background, there are horizontal blinds and a round analog clock on the wall showing approximately 10:10.

pete dudek
a&e editor

LIFE

Street:
ur favorite
ing food?

Courtney Bryson
English education major
berries from a can. I don't like the
ries, it's not Thanksgiving for me
thout canned cranberries."



Nicholas Morales
nursing major
They are sweet potato fries covered
d marshmallows and come with a
mic vinegar dipping sauce."



ports

CAMPUS LIFE

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November 18, 2010

Students thankful for friends' holiday invites

Andre Navarro
staff writer

Thanksgiving is a holiday consisting of quality time with the family, catching up, and retelling crazy stories around an array of delicious food. Unfortunately, some Clarke students do not get to experience this with their families. Whether it is because of sports, distance, money or a combination of the three, it does not mean these students just sit around in their rooms. Many students who are far away from home go to their friends or teammates houses and celebrate.

Rolando Sanchez, junior communication major, is going to be about 2000 miles away from his home in San Diego, Calif. over Thanksgiving break.

"Unfortunately, I will not be going home this year," Sanchez said. I am going up to Milwaukee to spend it with a few friends.

Clarke senior Tony Harvat (third from left) will take his baseball teammates (from left) Chris Brewer, Sean O' Connor away from home; it's kind of weird to me. and Brady Harris home for Thanksgiving this year.

The thing that I am disappointed in the most is that I will not be at my aunt's. Everyone goes there every year; it is the only time the entire family is together. We are always apart for Christmas, so seeing them at Thanksgiving is always a great time."

Not being able to see our families over break is not only hard for us, but our families as well. Although it is always a nice gesture when a friend offers to have you over to his or her house, it's not the same. There are some students that have never experienced what it is like to be apart from their families, and some cannot even fathom the thought.

Tony Harvat, senior psychology major, has been with his family for every Thanksgiving. "I cannot imagine not



Photo by Erin Cowan

being able to see Mom and Pop," he said. "It means a lot to me being able to spend time with my family over the holidays. I am sorry for those who can't; I know I am fortunate for that."

Given that family is important to Harvat, he is taking home three of his baseball teammates--Brady Harris, Chris Brewer and Sean O' Connor-- to enjoy the holidays.

"Those guys are like my brothers; there is no way I am going to let them stay here when they are more than welcome at my house," Harvat said.

There are some students who play multiple sports that immediately carry over, which means they must stay on campus over break. That is one of the many great

things here about Clarke: Everyone is so friendly that they will not hesitate to offer their home to others with open arms.

Morgan Sullivan, sophomore whose major is undecided, just finished up with soccer season and now finds herself preparing for the upcoming women's basketball season, which leaves her with no time to go home to spend the holidays with her family.

"I'm excited for another great day and great company no matter who ends up stuck with me!"

"I am so lucky to be surrounded by people who are so kind to invite me into their homes for my most favorite holiday," she said. "I know I will have somewhere to spend the day. I have not quite decided what I will be doing. I have the option to spend my Thanksgiving with a friend from the soccer team and a couple of other buddies in East Peoria, Ill., or I may stay in town and go to dinner at history professor Lynne Niznik's home."

"Last year was my first year spending any holiday away from my family. It allowed me to give my many thanks to those whom I cherish most and experience the love and hospitality of my roommate's family. I'm very excited for another great day of fabulous food and great company no matter who ends up stuck with me!"

'Pranked' and pranksters meet up in dorms

Andre Navarro
staff writer

Living in the dorms gets a bit boring at times, so pulling a friendly prank on a friend down the hall is not such a bad idea. Matt Bedell, freshman psychology major, was the friend down the hall in one particular recent prank.

"I was in someone's room when a few friends rushed in and told us to hurry up to the fourth floor of Mary Jo to look at a room," he said. "On the way up I was laughing anxiously because I couldn't wait to see."

"I thought I saw a shirt that looked like mine. After spotting a few more, I realized it was all my clothes! Embarrassed, I hurried and took all my clothes back to my room; a few girls offered to help but I was fine."

"Then I saw my mattress along with everything else in the bathroom set up like a bedroom; the only thing they did not take out was my shower gel and some bars to my bed. I was a little embarrassed at first, but after a few seconds, I just had to laugh about it."

The pranksters were Jared Courtright and Brian McCabe. "It was all in fun; it was not that big of a deal," Bedell said. "I was not mad at all, just a few of the upperclassmen pulling a classic prank. Afterwards they put everything back the way it was while I stood there and told them where to put it."

It appears that if you are not the one plotting a prank, it is happening to you. Make sure you do not go around trying to pull too many; you may never know when it will happen to you.

Becca Bahl, senior business major from Dubuque, claims to be quite the prankster from senior wrapping her friends' things to messing with regulars at stare fairs to gluing quarters to the ground. She tells of a funny prank that happened to her.

"My junior year I was pranked by a few of my good friends and a fellow prankster, Kayla Demmer," said Bahl. "I was showering in Mary Fran, singing, minding my own business, when something dropped in my shower. When I looked down it was a mouse!"

"I proceeded to scream and perhaps shout out a few foul words. I was really under the impression that the mouse was real because I thought I saw it moving. It was not until I heard the uncontrollable laughing over my screams that I realized I was pranked."

Bahl, the pranked prankster, added: "This eventually led to other pranks, but I feel it all helped me enjoy my Clarke experience even more."



Freshman Matt Bedell's entire room was moved to a Mary Jo restroom in a recent dorm prank.

ARTS ETC.

November 18, 2010

Not your typical production: 'Eurydice'

pete dudek
arts etc. editor

How far will you go to save the one you love? Would you travel to the depths of the Underworld? What if you got there and found that he or she didn't know if they wanted to be rescued?

"Eurydice" by Sarah Ruhl is a modern retelling of a Greek myth in which our protagonist, Orpheus, travels to the Underworld to rescue his love, Eurydice. The story is typically told through the eyes of Orpheus, but Ruhl takes an interesting approach in presenting the myth from Eurydice's viewpoint. This is one of the many liberties Ruhl takes with the piece. Another creation of Ruhl's is the addition of Eurydice's father and how she reconnects with someone who was taken away too soon.

Stepping into the shoes of director at Terrence Donahoe Hall is Joe Klinebriel, associate professor of drama. Klinebriel says one of the great aspects of this production is the openness that Ruhl creates. "This play is tricky," said Klinebriel. "The orchestration of movements is so open to interpretation that we get to establish the rules of the play." As a result the cast was expanded from seven characters to nine. "We wanted to create a more populated world in terms of representing the world; a chorus of five is visually more present than a chorus of three."

The students are also excited about the production. "I think 'Eurydice' will be more of an experience than a play," said freshman Jack Cole, who plays The Nasty, Interesting Man. "It's fast-paced and ac-

tion packed, much more similar to the standards of 'modern entertainment.'"

Sophomore drama major Rebecca Brosnan, who will be playing the title role, looks forward to the audience's response to the play. "It calls upon the viewers to really engage emotionally while still presenting fascinating and fun spectacle such as the very uniquely designed set and costumes."

One thing that makes the play worth seeing is the level of student involvement across the arts. Sophomore music composition major Luke Flynn composed original music for the play, 2010 Clarke grad Elizabeth Spoerl did sound design and senior graphic design major Katelin Hermesen designed the publicity poster.

Junior drama major Gage Steenhagen will be playing Orpheus, a role with hundreds of interpretations.

"Orpheus is a challenging character to play because his story has been told for centuries and my job is to make the Orpheus in this play new and relevant," said Steenhagen.

One of the more interesting aspects of the character is his ancestry and whether or not he is the son of a god. "I didn't want to elevate him to the level of a demigod," said Steenhagen. "That makes his journey to the Underworld much less inspiring. We expect heroes to do heroic things. The human element makes him a more powerful character."

Steenhagen has had a lot on his plate, as he also served as set designer with Ellen Gabrielleschi, associate professor of drama, as advisor.

"Within the set there is the presence of opposing forces in the contrast between the world and the Underworld," said Steenhagen. "The set enhances the effectiveness of this work of art and gives the whole experience more of an impact."

Another visual addition to the play features senior art major Beatrice Schares, who will be doing aerial silk (i.e. Cirque du Soleil) work for the production. This will serve as a poetic representation of Eurydice's earthly journey down through the Underworld.

"The implementation of silks began with the idea of a vertical river for the set," said Schares. "After all, they're underground, so why would it be flowing horizontally? The way it is now, the choreography serves as transitions to the Underworld as well as the representation of Eurydice in Orpheus's mind."

Coincidentally, Schares and her friend Alex Kahler (who got Schares into aerial silk work) name their silks after Greek gods. The silk to appear in the show is Aphrodite.

The cast is all abuzz with excitement. "I'm proud of the work we've done as a cast and I'm excited to present a piece this mutable, advanced, and entertaining to a live audience," said Cole. "As both an actor and director, I have an ap-

preciation for the process that actors go through, the creative/acting process," said Klinebriel.

Rounding out the cast of drama majors are juniors Max McNett, Joey Stamp, Josh McDowell, sophomore Austin Rae, and freshmen Emily Cram and Carrie Pieper.

DRAMA DEPARTMENT PRESENTS
EURYDICE



Clarke
UNIVERSITY

NOVEMBER 18-20 7:30PM
NOVEMBER 21 2:00PM
TERENCE DONAGHOE HALL

Show Times

Thursday, Friday, Saturday
7:30 p.m.
Sunday, 2 p.m.

CD REVIEW: Atmosphere's new release on 'super hot list'

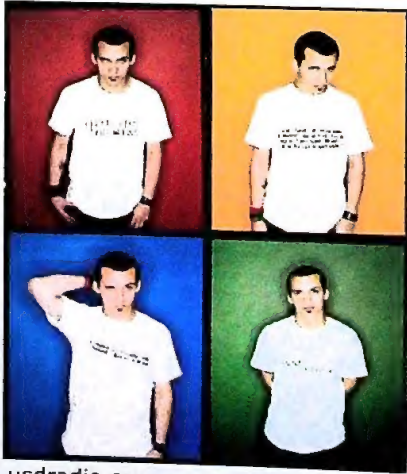
laan christianson
staff writer

Atmosphere's latest release, "To All My Friends, Blood Makes the Blade Holy," hit early last month, and as a double EP, is meant as a hold-over between albums. Bless an artist or group that does not forget about its audience and leave fans hanging with nothing for a few years, like Nas or Mos Def. Being an underground group on an independent label removes a lot of the restraints that may be experienced in any production. Atmosphere makes music in their own fashion and share with all as they see fit. Literally.

Atmosphere has previously released an EP, "Leak At Will," in 2009, and a studio album, "Strictly Leakage." In 2007, as free downloads online (one upping Radiohead's similar move). This allows for a stronger connection to any fan base and eradicates commercialization—which is the spoiler of 21st century music. So you can trust Atmosphere is real.

Like most other Atmosphere EP releases, the track list is basically a compilation of singles as there is no solid background theme unfolding. Slug, Atmosphere MC, touches on a number of different topics from friends making bad decisions to relationships, ordinary daily mishaps, employment, abortions, healthcare, other politics, and "Hope." Each cut is like a therapy session where Slug shares opinions and observations in an often humorous

and clever way. It seems refreshing or cleansing to get such issues out in the open. On track 5, "Americareful," there is an extended metonymic metaphor (I know this seems paradoxical, but that's how sharp the rap is) that threads healthcare, employment, abortion, economics, war and fanatical murder into a mind-blowing mini-narrative. Slug is essentially a story teller with rhymes, and its easy to get into his stories and feel the message and music.



usdradio.org

As for the beats, Ant is the Jedi DJ/producer who mixes everything together. In this double EP Ant incorporates a lot of bluesy guitar elements and real drums, contributing to the newly evolving hip-rock, folk-hop feel. There has been a little of this influence found in some of the band's earlier projects in minute doses. On Atmosphere's previous album, "When Life Gives You Lemons, You Paint That Sh*t Gold," there was none of this bluesy rock flavor, but I believe Atmosphere will incorporate more of this vibe in the future.

"To All My Friends..." is on my super hot list right now and I've been listening to it almost constantly since September. Singles to download include: "The Major Leagues," "Scalp," "Americareful," and "The Number None"—all supertight. My friends, I highly recommend this legit hip-hop art and hope you dig.

clarke courier



laan christianson
staff writer

December 1 is the submission deadline for Clarke University's new annual literary magazine, The Tenth Muse. Fiction, creative non-fiction, poetry, and scholarly academic writing in Spanish or English are all acceptable forms for submission. Originally only open to students, The Tenth Muse broadened its arms to receive public submissions in order to ensure diversity on a number of levels. Quality is the priority, and so students with well-written material can find their names published among established writers in a respected publication. This year there will be a celebrity judge, and submissions for the annual Clarke Writing Contest will automatically be considered for The Tenth Muse. Look for the first publication of the new literary magazine this spring.

Submit at: tinyURL.com/tenthmuse, at English instructor Anna Kelley's office, 124 CBH, or at the Atrium switchboard.

November
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elliott carr
staff writer & sport

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staff writer

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Clarke courier

SPORTS

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November 18, 2010

Women's volleyball season, era, ends

elliott carr
staff writer & tyler oehmen
sports editor

"I love this team. I love my job. I look forward to working with this team every day. They are good people and good people are fun to work with. The team chemistry we have is unrivaled. I am proud to be the head coach of this program."

Those are the words of Clarke women's volleyball head coach Chris Miron, and they sum up the 2010 season for the Crusaders. The team finished the season with a 3-1 loss to team rival William Penn on Saturday, Nov. 6. Like most teams, Clarke had plenty of ups and downs throughout the season. This year's team especially began setting records as they finished with the fifth highest winning percentage in team history, and at one point had gone without a loss in 10 straight matches.

Clarke finished the season with a record of 23-16, which was good for fourth place in the Midwest Collegiate Conference (MCC) standings, up from ninth the previous season.

Departing seniors Heather Jansen, Ashley Shields and Brittany Batteram can hold their heads high, knowing that they went out on top. The talented trio will be dearly missed by Miron, teammates and fans alike.

Shields once again led the team in kills, with 536 and blocks, with 110. Batteram also stepped up with nearly 200 kills. Jansen led the team with 627 service receptions, passing .963, and had over 600 digs, also a team best.

"Playing volleyball for Clarke was very enjoyable because all of the girls got along making it easy to trust one another,"

said Shields. "Volleyball helped me meet other student athletes and introduced me to my best friends here at Clarke. I will miss seeing the girls every day and getting to know them through all their stories."

three times this season.

"Ashley's all-time kill record is going to be very tough to beat" Miron said. "I wouldn't be surprised if that one stays in the number-one spot for a very, very long time!"



photo contributed by JP Dorn

Junior captain and setter Hannah Grow added, "Next season just won't be the same without the seniors. They have all contributed so much energy and excitement as well as fun to our team for the last four years and we have some very big shoes to fill for next season."

And very big shoes they are. Shields surpassed the 1,000 kill mark, and now sits at number one all-time for kills in Clarke men's and women's volleyball history. She was also named MCC player of the week

Heather Jansen, a one-time MCC libero of the week, is also a huge loss. "She gave us amazing communication and hustle on the court," Miron said. "She just wouldn't stop and never gave up on anything. She was a huge motivator for the team this year and kept us going."

Brittany Batteram was also a key contributor to the team over her four years at Clarke. She recorded a career-best season her senior year and leaves a hole in the lineup that will take a lot to fill.

Assistant coaches Alex Wilharm and JP Dorn also were major contributors to the team's success.

"Special thanks to JP Dorn and Alex Wilharm for their hard work this year" said Miron. "This is the best coaching staff I have ever worked with--we had a blast together."

Miron is honest when reflecting upon the team's performance. "It was a good season for lots of reasons," he said. "I will look back on this season with good memories of what we accomplished. I think that, at times, we were playing the best ball Clarke has seen in a long time. And, at other times, I know that we could have played better."

He knows through hard work the team's success can continue for years to come. "I think this season leads into next season--we need to continue working on being mentally tough and staying focused. I think this will allow us to win the tight matches and five-set matches more consistently; I think we need to continue to work on applying our practices to our matches--what we do successfully in practice needs to happen in matches also."

While there are some big shoes to fill, the team is looking to build off its success going into next year. Megan Bunyer and Betsy Nauman played significant roles as freshmen, and there will be another strong senior group consisting of Hannah Grow, Abby Nauman, Megan Harnson, and Kylee Miller. Sophomore Shannon Gallagher proved she can be a dominant player and will only get better. Expect big things from this group in the future.

Fans rally for Clarke men's basketball opener

heather jansen
staff writer



photo from clarkecrusaders.com

A Judson player can't help but laugh before he inbound the ball as he is being taunted by lots of Clarke fans

Fans poured into the Kehl Center Tuesday, Nov. 2, for the Clarke men's basketball season opener. Excitement was apparent throughout the gym: The loud thumping of the music as it blared out of the speakers, sweat pouring down the faces of both teams as they warmed up, and the fan's painted bodies jumping up and down as they cheered and chanted. Clarke went head-to-head with the Judson Eagles, a Chicago team ranked No. 21 in the nation. The Crusaders left the court with elevated spirits and high hopes after a graceful win, 94-82.

The squad was off to a fast start from the beginning after winning

the jump and scoring the first 10 points of the game. Coach Drymon's team meshed well, for no matter who stepped on the court, Clarke's offense and defense could not be stopped. Several players contributed to the huge win.

"We have high hopes for a good season," said junior college transfer Chad Boston. "We are deep all the way to the end of the bench; anyone can play."

Boston led the team with 24 points and assisted with nine rebounds. Junior college transfer Mike Schindel added 15 points and 13 rebounds while, another junior college transfer, Brock Zins, came through with 20 points and 11 rebounds. At the half, Clarke led the game 43-31, pushing forward with a solid lead all the way to the end.

Last year, men's basketball ended with a record of 6-25. With several new transfers and returning forces, the team is fired up and ready to compete for an

MCC (Midwest Collegiate Conference) championship.

"We hope to turn around the program at Clarke," said Travis Ferrrell, senior co-captain. "We have set goals and we will work hard towards achieving them. It is our hope as a team to do something Clarke has never done or seen before."

A win is a win, but beating a nationally ranked team says something. Clarke basketball fans have quite the season to look forward to with this deep and talented team.

"We are not thinking long term right now," said Drymon third year coach at Clarke. "Our hopes, like most, are to end up at the National Tourney, but for now we are taking it day by day."

After hosting the Holiday Inn classic this past weekend, the men's team is currently 4-1. The Crusaders' first loss was to No. 13 ranked Briar Cliff University. They will travel to University of Wisconsin-Platteville this up-



photo from clarkecrusaders.com
Junior Charles Nunn takes the ball to the hoop on Clarke's way to their first victory

coming weekend starting with an evening game at 7 p.m. Friday, Nov. 19.

clarke courier

November 18, 2010

New coach shakes up dance team

elliott carr
staff writer

The 2010-11 season welcomes in a new era for the Clarke University dance team with the appointment of Katie Gallagher as head coach. Gallagher previously served as head coach of Dyersville's Beckman High School's dance team for three years.

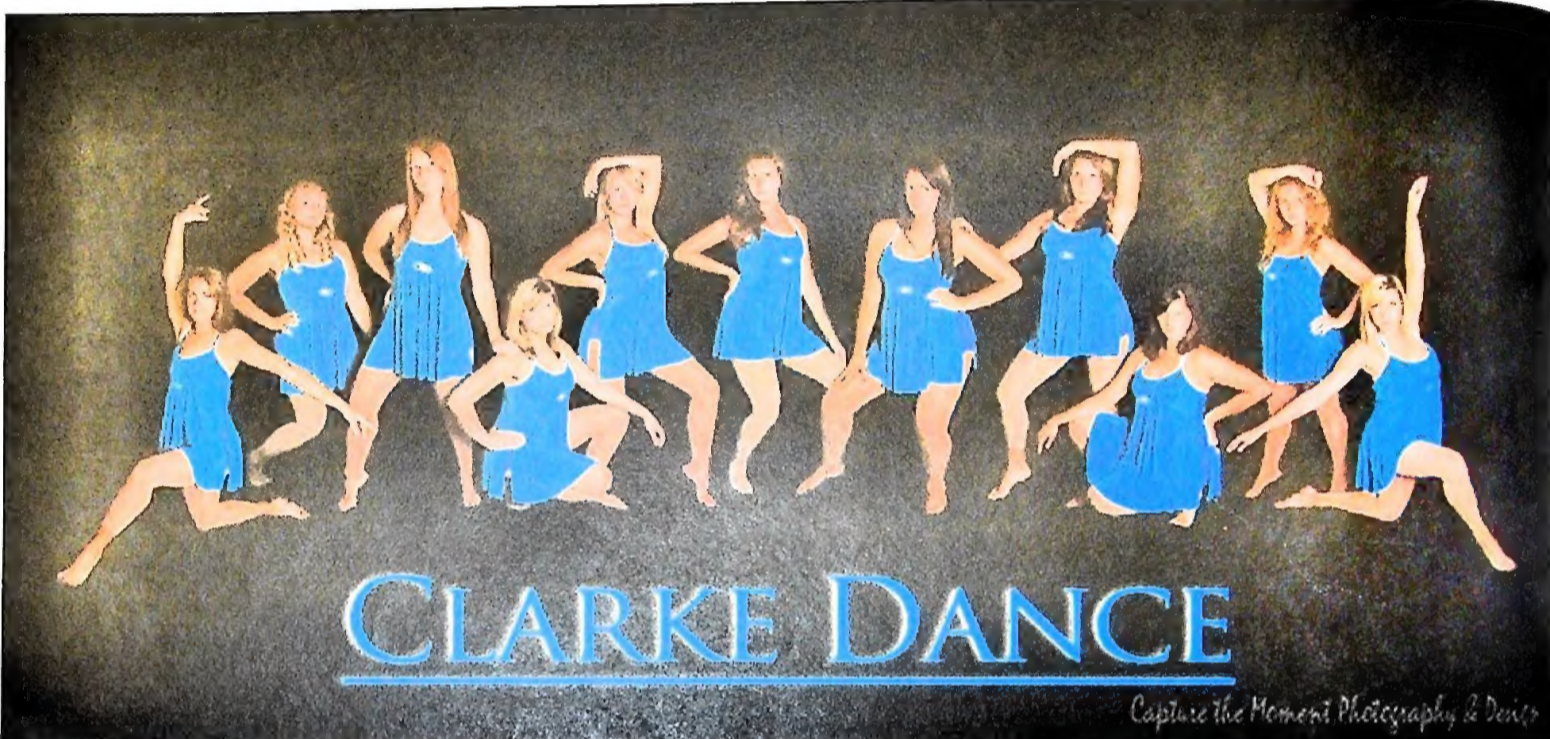
The team has also taken on a new motto to live by: "Take pride in how far you have come, have faith in how far you can go."

In her short time here, Gallagher has really shaken up what it means to be a Clarke dancer. "This year the girls have

been working really hard in the weight room to build up their strength and endurance," she said. "Their choreography is demanding so they need to have the stamina to make it through the dances, especially hip hop!"

When she heard the position of dance team coach at Clarke was available, Gallagher immediately applied as it presented an opportunity to return to coaching, a passion of hers. Besides coaching, she also works as a photographer at Capture the Moment Photography and Design in Dyersville, Iowa.

The team will compete in the Iowa State Dance and Drill Team



Championships on Friday, December 3 in Des Moines. The dancers go into the meet with high expectations. "Our goal is to improve from last year and place in the top three" said Gallagher. "It will be tough because we have some great competition, but I'm all about setting our goals high and raising the standard of excellence for Clarke Dance."

Her attitude has changed the culture of the team. Sophomore Kelly McAllister said "She's tough and motivates all of us to work hard to get up to the level of the best."

Another welcome introduction to the program is a more advanced level of choreography. At

the University of Iowa, Gallagher roomed with Jenna Kollings, who was a member of the UI dance team and had choreographed its hip hop nationals routine. The Clarke team is fortunate enough to have her choreographing their competition routines, which while exciting, have also proved to be the biggest challenge so far.

"I think that has been the biggest adjustment for the girls--the increase in difficulty levels this year, but I have been extremely proud of how hard they have worked in practices" Gallagher said.

Kelly McAllister is one of the beneficiaries of the new choreography. "She has great connec-

tions with choreographers and knows what she is doing, we have already learned so much from her" said McAllister. "Our choreography is going to be great."

One more change to the team is its new emphasis on competition. In the past team members have not worried as much about competing, but this is now different as they have worked tirelessly to surprise everybody at state with how far they have come in a year. Gallagher said, "I think the student body will be really impressed with the transformation of the team this year, and we hope everyone will cheer them on at the basketball games!"

Team members have respond-

ed well to Gallagher's initiatives, and have been willing to put in the hard yards and do whatever it takes to be successful. Most of the dancers did not anticipate working out with basketball players, but have been openminded about it and have seen the results.

"The girls consistently work hard in practices, dedicating themselves to better the Clarke Dance Program" Gallagher said. "They recognise that the team is not built on one person, but the team as a whole. The girls are fearless, passionate, and focused on their competitions ahead, yet we also have a lot of fun as a team."

Men's basketball improves to 5-1 with impressive win over Rockford

tyler oehmen
sports editor

Junior Mike Schindel scored a game high 17 points for Clarke Tuesday night.

The bleachers were filled Tuesday as Clarke fans crowded the Kehl center for a midweek matchup between the Clarke men's basketball team and Rockford College. Clarke jumped out to an early lead and both teams kept up the energy for a physical first half in which the teams combined for a total of 27 fouls.

Brock Zins powered his way through the first half and led Clarke in both points and rebounds. Midway through the second half, Clarke took off and took the game by a score of 96-72.

"We played like we are capable of playing," said head coach Jerry

Drymon. "First half we were a little off. But in the last ten minutes or so the floodgates opened and we went on a big run started by a three-pointer drained by Eli [Fitzsimons]."

The game which seemed to have many foul calls on both sides of the court, kept its intensity throughout the night. Junior Mike Schindel led the team with 17 points as Brock Zins continued to lead the team in rebounds with 13.

"The refs basically told me that's just how it was going to be," said Drymon. "There were a lot of fouls on both sides and it was just one of those things you just have

to deal with. We can do our part to cut down on fouls, but that's about it."

For Drymon, balance was one of the key words for Tuesday's game as the team gathered 42 points in the paint and the entire team rebounded well.

"We had four guys in double figures tonight," continued Drymon. "That's something we would like to keep up. We really stepped up in the second half but we are always looking to get better."

"We have to go one step at a time and continue pressing to get to where we want to be. We would like to be 6-0 right now,

but 5-1 is very good. We are going into uncharted waters as far as Clarke goes with basketball success and winning, so we have to be happy with our strong start and must continue to work. We have plenty to be excited for, including senior Justin Heng who will be coming back from an ankle injury on Friday."

The men's squad will return to action on Friday night where they will head to Platteville, Wis. for the Platteville tournament. They will play Platteville on Friday at 7 p.m. and Wisconsin Eau Claire on Saturday at 5 p.m.



Collegiate mothers speak their story.



Native Oscar winner speaks at Loras.



Clarke baseball is jacked for the 2011 season.

